

Remarks

The undersigned respectfully requests reconsideration of this application in view of the amendments, the following remarks and the concurrently submitted terminal disclaimer.

In this response, claims 15-41 have been cancelled without prejudice, claim 3 has been amended to correct a minor informality and twenty-eight new claims (i.e., claims 42-69) have been added to provide a set of method claims having step-plus-function elements and a set of computer-readable medium claims paralleling claims 1-14. Hence, upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-14 and 42-69 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections Double Patenting

In the Office action, the only identified ground for rejecting claims 1-14 is a nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection in view of Applicant's previously issued US Patent No. 6,292,787. The undersigned submits herewith a terminal disclaimer to overcome this rejection. Consequently, the undersigned respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the double patenting rejection and allow the pending claims.

New Claims

The undersigned proposes herein adding twenty-eight new claims (i.e., claims 42-69) to provide a set of method claims having step-plus-function elements and a set of computer-readable medium claims paralleling allowable claims 1-14. Due to the similarities among new claims 42-69 and allowable claims 1-14, the new claims should be amenable to a quick review to confirm their allowability.

Conclusion

The undersigned respectfully submits the amendments, remarks and concurrently provided terminal disclaimer obviate the double patenting rejection.

Appl. No. 09/955,394
Amdt. Dated May 8, 2007
Reply to Office Action of April 5, 2007

Accordingly, the undersigned respectfully requests the Examiner to promptly issue a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-14 and 42-69.

Request for a Telephone Interview

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite allowance of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-284-5103.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMILTON, DESANCTIS & CHA

Date May 8, 2007

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